

Surgical Recovery Care

ABC Animal Clinic & Hospital

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1. Generally, **anesthesia** will make your pets **stomach upset**. Please, **no food or water** the night after surgery unless directed differently by the doctor. One or two melting ice cubes can be given late tonight to relieve some of the thirst.
2. The **anesthetic agents** are usually not entirely worn off the first day home. Please **separate your pets** from other pets, for at least the next 24 hours.
3. All pets, which undergo surgery, need time and rest to heal. Please **restrict your pets' activity** as much as possible over the next week or so. This means **NO wrestling** with children or other pets. Running and jumping should be minimized as much as possible.
4. **Bathing pets** should be minimized until the **stitches are removed** (if there are any) and the **wound has healed**. If bathing is required, consult your Veterinarian and minimize the amount of water at the surgical site.
5. **Monitor the surgical site daily** for signs of bleeding or infection, I.E. weeping or oozing wounds, puffiness, bubble like masses under the skin, etc. For the first 5 days, the main concern is to control the pet, which may **try to remove the stitches** before its time. If a problem does develop please call, we have ways to help.
6. **Stitches** (PLEASE LOOK FOR THEM !!) should be **removed** around (10) days after surgery. If your pet **removed them early**, call the clinic immediately. If your pet demonstrates any unusual behavior, i.e. lazy or lacks energy, heavy labored breathing etc. call the clinic immediately.
7. **Many pets**, which have been spayed or neutered, **will not have stitches** visible to the eye. The animals having these stitches should be monitored for gaps in the surgical wound and the surgical site should be examined by one of our staff members about (10) days after surgery.

*****SPECIAL NOTE TO ALL OWNERS*****

- * *If a female animal is spayed during her estrus cycle, she will still be attractive to males for several days afterward and is still capable of mating. Although no possibility of pregnancy exists, you **MUST** keep her away from all un-neutered male animals for up to (2) weeks.*
- * *Male animals are still capable of breeding for (90) days or occasionally even longer after neutering. Although the testicles have been surgically removed, hormone levels will remain in the bloodstream and viable sperm will remain in the storage canals for an extended period of time.*